

SUBCOMMITTEE ON REQUIREMENTS OF THE ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

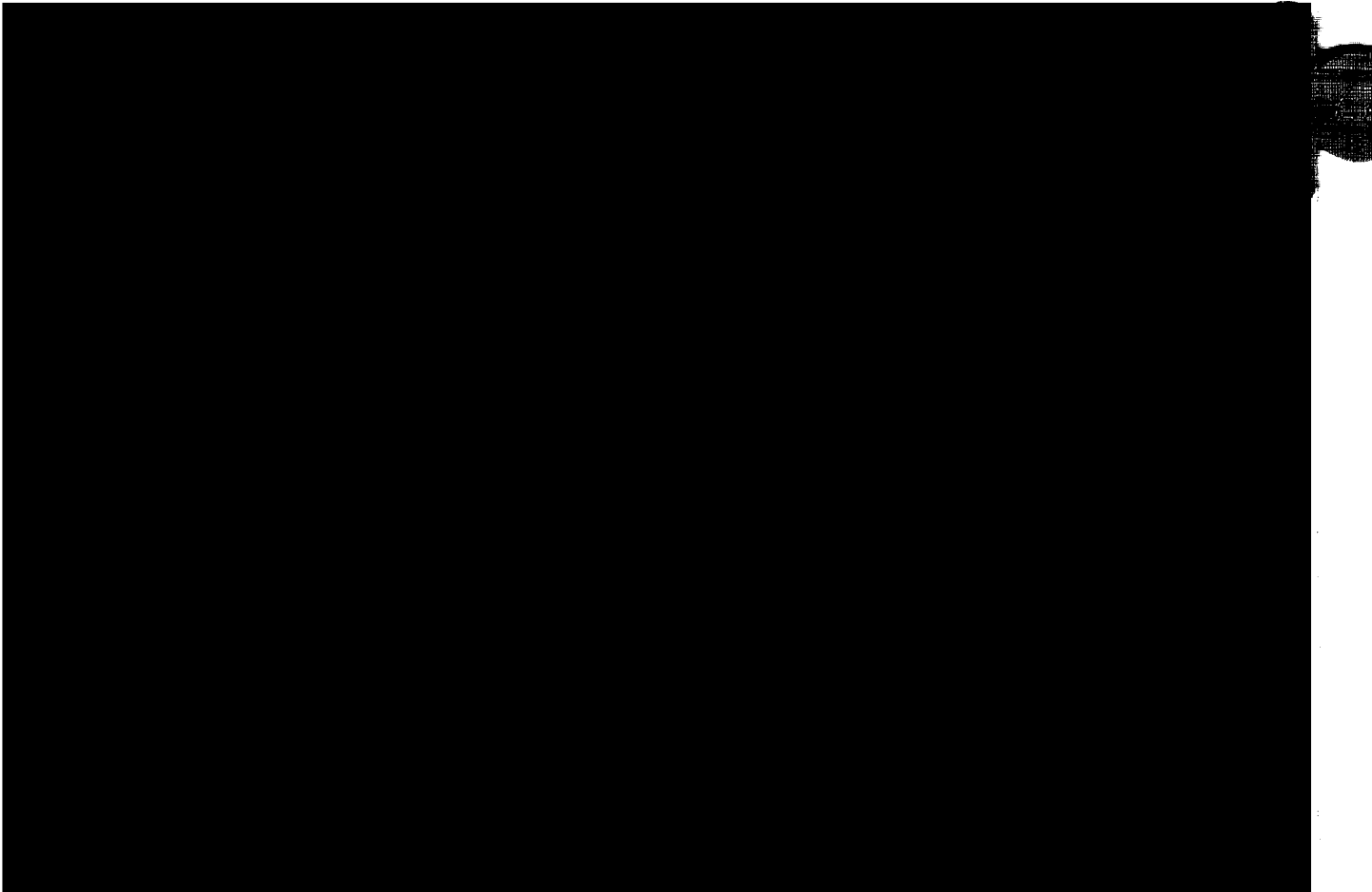
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

30 JUNE 1960

1. During the year ending 30 June 1960, the Subcommittee on Requirements of the Economic Intelligence Committee held two meetings, both of which were concerned mainly with the review of the status of existing information collection programs and activities and the consideration of new plans and programs in light of current and anticipated collection problems.

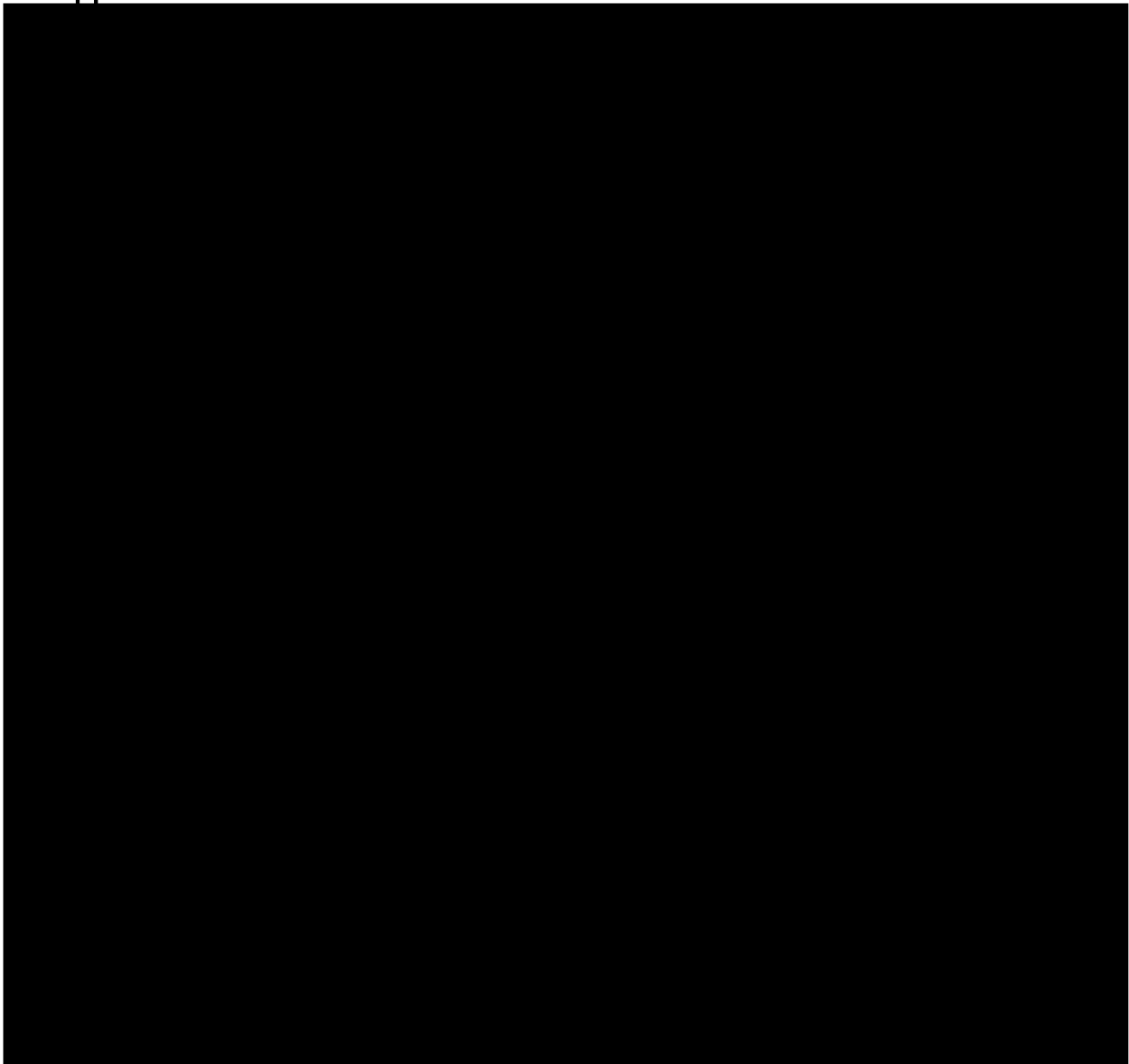
2. The accomplishments of the Subcommittee during the past year are expressed mainly through the activities and actions of three of its functions, as shown below:

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b. Economic Reporting Guidance Program

The Economic Reporting Guidance Program was established to maintain and improve economic and geographic intelligence acquisition from a unique source, i.e., reliable US officials living and working behind the Iron Curtain. Emphasis during the past year has been placed upon developing the unique aspects of the reporting from these officials in order to husband their limited time and energy for products which they alone can provide.

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Staff officers have endeavored to select for their use from the multiplicity of intelligence community needs, not only those of the highest priority, but those susceptible to answer only by these reporters through personal observation and visits, contacts and conversations, on-the-spot perception and interpretive reaction. Results have been apparent in a marked increase in appreciative appraisals prepared by consumers of their reports.

The goal has been stressed throughout the year in the support provided the Foreign Service Officers, including:

Briefing prior to departure with extent and content based on background, expressed interests and assignment of each and geared to post potential and related to past reporting from the post.

Tailoring of requirements to follow up the briefings, pointing out current intelligence problems and the contributions that only the reporting officer may be able to make because of his position, possible contacts or presence in the concerned area.

Commenting to the mission on specific despatches, indicating their usefulness and further lines for investigation and reporting.

Supplying material and equipment required by the missions to improve economic reporting, such as maps (some in specially prepared versions), cameras and film for overt use on non-critical subjects, as feasible.

Preparation of types of guidance requested by reporting officers, such as reference material, situation papers, clarification of problems on which material may be available from other sources.

Selection and sending of ORR research papers and memoranda for substantive information, demonstration of the use of Foreign Service reporting, and indication of further intelligence needs.

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c. Comprehensive Economic Reporting Program

Efforts designed to stimulate more effective, expanded and coordinated utilization of the Department of State's Comprehensive Economic Reporting Program (CERP) were continued during the year. Through the Subcommittee, consumers of CERP reporting were briefed on the Foreign Service Manual and its relationship to the CERP and stress was placed on the need to keep the Manual and CERP instructions current to insure that responsive reporting by the field was directly pertinent to the needs of consumers.

The Department of State took one step designed to improve communications between the Department and the consumers of CERP reporting by making it possible for consumers to communicate their CERP needs directly to the Division of Foreign Reporting (REP). Streamlining of this channel of communication should result in a better understanding of the CERP and its capabilities and limitations and should bring improvement in the quality and pertinence of guidance supplied to the Program.

3. Although there has been considerable activity surrounding certain specific functions of the Subcommittee, as described above, the Subcommittee proper has been relatively inactive during the reporting period. It continues, however, to exist as a mechanism available to the intelligence community for coordination with regard to problems relating to intelligence requirements and the collection of intelligence information. For the future, the Subcommittee will maintain its responsibilities and activities related to [REDACTED] the Economic Reporting Guidance Program and the Comprehensive Economic Reporting Guidance Program. In addition, it plans to continue surveying existing plans and programs for the collection, recording, processing and distribution of economic intelligence information and to formulate, as appropriate, coordinated plans and programs to meet new or anticipated problems.

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